

On page 1, line 2 after the "Cross-Reference to Related Application" section,  
A2 please insert - TECHNICAL FIELD --.

On page 1, line 12, before the paragraph beginning "Inherent in modern asphalt  
A3 mix design..." please insert -- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --.

On page 5, line 24, before the paragraph beginning "According to one aspect..."  
A4 please insert - SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --.

On page 14, line 13, before the paragraph beginning "Various embodiments of  
A5 methods..." please insert - BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --.

On page 15, line 3, before the paragraph beginning "Referring to Figures 1 and  
A6 2..." please insert - DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --.

In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the enclosed replacement Abstract of the Disclosure.

In the Claims:

Please cancel previously allowed claims 14, 15, 19, 21, 22, 25-32.

All of the pending claims have been provided for the Examiner's convenience.

Claims 1, 7, 12, 17, 20, 23, 24, and 33 have been amended as follows:

A7 1. (Amended) A method of compacting a mat of hot mix asphalt which has been laid by an advancing asphalt paver, the method comprising advancing an asphalt compactor over the laid asphalt such that a compaction surface of the compactor, formed by a lower run of at least one belt, is engaged with any one portion of the mat for a period of at least 1.5 seconds and of less than about 60 seconds, the compaction surface applying a maximum average load stress to the mat of less than about 50 kPa and greater than about 10 kPa.